
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Robert Bauman
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Ald. Bauman Asks Federal Highway Administration To Extend I-94 Public Comment Period

Busy Holiday Season, Snow Storms Keep Citizens From Hearings

Ald. Bob Bauman has made a formal request to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to extend the official comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the reconstruction of I-94 from Milwaukee to the Illinois-Wisconsin state line. Multiple public hearings on the transportation plan have been scheduled amid holiday events and snowstorms. Ald. Bauman wants all interested citizens to have the opportunity to comment. "There is a growing impression that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) wants to stifle the discussion and debate by scheduling a comment period during a time when many citizens are distracted by holiday and family commitments," Ald. Bauman said.

The I-94 expansion and reconstruction project is a multi-billion dollar project that will span nearly a decade. Debate over the disparate funding options available for the highway versus two rail projects covering the same territory prompted the Common Council to pass a resolution this month supporting a reassessment of the planning process for transportation infrastructure in Southeastern Wisconsin and expressing opposition to expansion of this section of I-94. Mayor Tom Barrett also voiced concern over the expansion of I-94 in a recent press conference.

Extend Comment Period/ ADD ONE

“Frankly, I cannot understand why WisDOT is in such a hurry to move through the public hearing portion of this process. Given the billions of tax dollars at stake, the public should have every reasonable opportunity to express their opinions and concerns about this project. This is why I am appealing directly to the FHWA to grant an extension,” Ald. Bauman said.

The alderman’s office has received numerous communications from constituents complaining that the public comment period and its timing have been inadequate.

-30-